

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 7, please amend the paragraph beginning at lines 3-17, as follows:

Particularly suitable are hydroxyalkyl chitosans and carboxyalkyl chitosans.

Hydroxyalkyl chitosans include chitosans which are derivatized with C₁₋₆ alkyl groups possessing 1 to 3 hydroxy groups. As an example, hydroxypropyl chitosan can be mentioned. Carboxyalkyl chitosans include chitosans which are derivatized with C₁₋₆ alkyl groups possessing 1 to 3 ~~hydroxy~~ carboxy groups. As an example, carboxymethyl chitosan can be mentioned. The water soluble film forming agent (component b)) can be used in an amount as long as the formation of a film of the claimed composition can be provided. Typically, the amount of the component b) is in the range of 0.1 to 10 wt.%, more preferably 0.3 to 8 wt.%, most preferably 0.5 to 5 wt% by weight of the total composition.